

## REMARKS FROM THE PRESIDENT

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In the fall of 2009 IAMSLIC held a joint conference with EURASLIC in the beautiful city of Brugge, Belgium.

IAMSLIC thanks Peter Pissiersens, the IOC and VLIZ, the Flanders Marine Science Institute for the wonderful location, the warm welcome and perfect arrangements for this IAMSLIC/EURASLIC conference.

We also thank our sponsors: Elsevier, Proquest, Annual Reviews, Inc., EBSCO, InterResearch and NHBS Natural History Book Sellers for their generous support.

Most of all we thank Ruth Gustafson and her team for organizing a wonderful and inspirational program.

These are difficult times with financial challenges being faced all over the world. IAMSLIC continues to provide a lifeline to members who need to collaborate and share resources more than ever. Our association remains vibrant, on firm financial footing and with well organized regional groups.

A few highlights this year include the retirement of longtime membership ambassador Jean Collins. To thank her for her dedication and years of service, Jean has been awarded Honorary Membership.

Our new proceedings editor is Dorothy Barr of Harvard University. We thank Kristen Anderson for her dedication and good work on previous editions of the proceedings.

We have worked with Linda Pikula to produce a new draft IAMSLIC/IOC MOU (memorandum of understanding).

### Regional Group Highlights:

IAMSLIC's Pacific Islands Regional Group (PIRG) has a new executive board in place. They are Peter Murgatroyd, Chris Nelson and Suzie Davies.

Afriamslic held a regional meeting in July 2009.

CYAMUS held their annual meeting in California in March 2009.

EURASLIC is meeting this week in Brugge during our joint IAMSLIC/EURASLIC conference. They have decided to move their treasury to IAMSLIC so that they do not

have to fill the position of treasurer.

The Latin American Regional Group will meet in Cuba at the end of October 2009.

SAIL held a conference in Wilmington, NC in May of 2009.

#### IAMSLIC Committee Highlights:

##### Aquatic Commons:

The Aquatic Commons was ranked 259 out of 400 of the top repositories, an initiative of the Cybermetrics Lab in Spain. The ranking is based on size, visibility, rich files and scholarly content. The Aquatic Commons has over 2500 items and there have been over 70,000 downloads to date.

##### Membership Committee:

Currently our membership is 352.

Sponsored memberships include new members in Kenya, Cote d'Ivoire and Lebanon who were awarded 3 year memberships.

Generous support from IODE/ODINCARSA is funding the second year of a two-year membership for 13 librarians from Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, Belize and Barbados.

Again ASFA/FAO has funded 31 memberships.

Members are encouraged to spread the word about the benefits of joining IAMSLIC.

##### Resource Sharing Committee:

This year 4333 requests were submitted. 72 different libraries in 24 countries received requests from 125 libraries in 46 countries.

The Hatfield Marine Science Center at Oregon State University was the top lending library followed by the Bedford Institute of Oceanography in Canada, the Alfred Wegener Institute in Germany, the University of Hawaii and the Hopkins Marine Station Harold A. Miller Library.

For a more detailed picture of this year's activities, see the annual reports posted on the IAMSLIC website.

A year flies by. Soon we will meet again in a different hemisphere where we will share friendship and common interests. See you all in Mar del Plata, Argentina in October 2010!